

June 28, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) held a re-dedication ceremony for the newly refurbished facility chapel, which was renamed in honor of former Superintendent Pam Cline. Since 2010, IWP staff and offenders have worked extremely hard in collaboration with Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Construction Services staff to revitalize this beautiful chapel while teaching the offenders skills for successful re-entry into the community. Several current and former staff, along with Pam Cline's family, joined together for the celebration. Former Superintendent Dana Blank and current Superintendent Steve McCauley presented Pam's husband with honorary copies of the plaque that will be displayed at the Chapel for many years to come. (see photo below)

American Legion State Commander Dick Jewell attended a meeting of the Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Post #608. During the meeting, the offenders conducted their annual installation of officers and Commander Jewel served as the Installing Officer. Seven new offenders were initiated into the Legion raising the organization's membership to 32 offenders. At the conclusion of the meeting, the members of Post #608 presented Commander Jewel with a check in the amount of \$608 which he will utilize in connection with his annual project at the Indiana Veterans Home.



IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and Indiana State Police (ISP) Superintendent Doug Carter joined IDOC and ISP staff at the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) to recognize ISP Detective Bob May and thank him for his dedication to assisting the Department and serving CIF and the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Detective Hays has been an invaluable asset to the Internal Affairs Department at both facilities and has assisted in dozens of arrests as the result of trafficking attempts and offender assaults, sometimes on his day off. (see photo left, (L to R): Pendleton Superintendent Dushan Zatecky, IDOC Commissioner Lemmon, Detective May, CIF Superintendent Wendy Knight, ISP Superintendent Carter)



Camp Summit Boot Camp is pleased to announce that the facility received a perfect score of 100% on mandatory standards and 100% for non-mandatory standards during an American Correctional Association (ACA) reaccreditation and compliance audit. The visiting committee stated in their closing comments that "Camp Summit clearly is a highly effectively facility that truly cares about the students in their charge and would be a place that they would feel proud to serve at."

A volunteer appreciation dinner was held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Organized by program coordinator, Derek Smith, 24 volunteers were recognized for their services to the facility. A special presentation was made to Gene Woodcox, Director of New Hope Prison Ministry in Brazil, IN, for 40 years of service. (see photo right of Gene Woodcox)



Graduation 2013 at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility was a huge success! 150 offenders donned caps and gowns, earning GED, Vocational and Apprenticeship certificates. IDOC Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland, Executive Director Michael Osburn and Deputy Commissioner Jim Basinger were on hand for the special commencement along with District 45 State Representative Kreg Battles. Proud family members cheered the graduates, taking major steps on the road to re-entry.

IDOC and PEN Products were recognized in Washington D.C. for their cutting edge re-entry efforts including U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship programs, Career Development and the Offender Workforce Development Specialist training. PEN Products Operations and Re-entry Manager Doug Evans participated in a re-entry initiatives work group developing a new employer driven model for connecting offenders to the world of work, sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC). Mr. Evans was one of five workgroup members representing probation, law enforcement, workforce development and NIC program development. The new model "Connecting Offenders to Employment" under development will roll out spring 2014 at the National Correctional Industries Conference.

Miami Correctional Facility finished the planting of its facility garden. The garden is 1400 square feet and is located on the north end of the warehouse. The facility has planted 200 Blue Lake green bean plants, 100 tomato plants of different varieties, and close to 50 pepper plants. The produce grown in the garden will go to help feed the hungry at EMMAUS Mission Center in Logansport and the Hillsdale food pantry at the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

Staff from the Gary Parole District joined Lake County, Homeland Security, the Chicago Police Department, and various other local law enforcement agencies to participate in "Operation No Safe Harbor" in Lake County, IN. The goal of this operation is to target High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) with as many law enforcement agencies as possible to focus on serving outstanding warrants on confirmed gang members and conduct home visits with confirmed gang members that are on Parole Supervision.

Two Bloomington Parole District agents were recognized for their diligence in working with local law enforcement to apprehend a registered sex offender in violation of his parole and potentially saving two young victims from harm.